

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1 to 10. (Canceled).

11. (Previously Presented) A method for actively assisting a motor vehicle driver in a motor vehicle using at least one control unit and an input and output unit, the control unit configured to access data of sensors and control units relevant to a condition of the motor vehicle and to transmit control commands to the control units and devices configured for external communication, comprising the steps of:

detecting a critical vehicle condition by the control unit by evaluating the data of the sensors and the control units;

generating a list of possible actions for the motor vehicle driver in response to the critical vehicle condition detected in the detecting step;

displaying the detected critical vehicle condition and the list of possible actions of the motor vehicle driver on a display unit of the input and output unit; and

executing an action selected by the motor vehicle driver using the control unit.

12. (Previously Presented) A method for actively assisting a motor vehicle driver in a motor vehicle using at least one control unit and an input and output unit, the control unit configured to access data of comfort control units and to transmit control commands to the comfort control units, comprising the steps of:

manually activating the method by the motor vehicle driver;

displaying an input prompt on a display unit of the input and output unit relating to which comfort setting should be changed;

context-sensitive and preference-sensitive compiling of at least one of operational settings and control elements relevant to the input prompt on the display unit using the control unit; and

executing input control commands.

13. (Previously Presented) A method for actively assisting a motor vehicle driver in a motor vehicle using at least one control unit and an input and output unit, the control unit configured to access at least one of an internal database and an external database, comprising the steps of:

- manually activating the method by the motor vehicle driver;
- displaying a list of possible recommendations on a display unit of the input and output unit;
- executing a context-sensitive and a preference-sensitive interrogation dialog to ascertain a driver command;
- displaying possible actions performable in response to the ascertained driver command; and
- executing an action selected by the motor vehicle driver using the control unit.

14. (Previously Presented) A device for actively assisting a motor vehicle driver in a motor vehicle, comprising:

- at least one control unit configured to evaluate detected conditions critical to the motor vehicle; and
- an input and output unit configured to detect and display conditions critical to the motor vehicle using the control unit, to generate and display a list of possible actions of the motor vehicle driver in response to the detected conditions critical to the motor vehicle as an input option with the condition critical to the motor vehicle;

wherein the control unit is configured to perform a selected input option.

15. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 14, wherein the control unit is connected to at least one other control unit of the motor vehicle by a CAN bus.

16. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 14, wherein the display unit includes a touch screen.

17. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 14, wherein the input and output unit includes an input device, the input device including at least one of a voice-recognition unit and a bidirectional, rotary pressure transducer.

18. (Previously Presented) A device for actively assisting a motor vehicle driver in a vehicle, comprising:

at least one control unit configured to acquire data of comfort control units and to control the comfort control units; and

an input and output unit including a display unit configured to display input prompts for selecting a comfort setting using the control unit, the display unit configured to display at least one of operational settings and control elements relative to selected comfort settings in a context-sensitive and preference-sensitive manner;

wherein the control unit is configured to execute input control commands for the at least one of the operational settings and the control elements.

19. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 18, wherein the control unit is connected to at least one other control unit of the motor vehicle by a CAN bus.

20. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 18, wherein the display unit includes a touch screen.

21. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 18, wherein the input and output unit includes an input device, the input device including at least one of a voice-recognition unit and a bidirectional, rotary pressure transducer.

22. (New) The method according to claim 11, wherein the critical vehicle condition includes an engine temperature.

23. (New) The method according to claim 11, wherein the critical vehicle condition includes an engine-oil level.

24. (New) The method according to claim 11, wherein the list of possible actions includes at least one of shutting off the engine, calling a garage, and ignoring.

25. (New) The method according to claim 12, wherein the display unit includes a touch-sensitive screen.